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FRP: . . . . .  
STAFF

[Redacted]

87 5149356 ASP

PAGE 001  
TOT: 160450Z JUN 87

DIRECTOR 505798

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BRIEF 160450Z DIRECTOR 505798  
TO: PRIORITY LATIN AMERICA BRIEF.

[Redacted]

*CPAS LAB 87-139*

[Redacted]

SUBJECT: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF OCPAS LAB 87-139 FOR 16 JUNE 1987.

FROM: DDI/O/CPAS.

CONTENTS

1. BOLIVIA: COCA GROWERS SIGN ANTIDRUG ACCORD

[Redacted]

1. BOLIVIA: COCA GROWERS SIGN ANTIDRUG ACCORD

BOLIVIAN PEASANT UNIONS SIGNED AN AGREEMENT LAST WEEK THAT MAY GIVE THEM A LARGER ROLE IN SETTING THE GOVERNMENT'S ANTIDRUG POLICY. UNIONS FOR COCA GROWERS ACKNOWLEDGED FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT EXCESS COCA PRODUCTION FEEDS THE NARCOTICS INDUSTRY, AND THE GROWERS TENTATIVELY AGREED TO VOLUNTARY CROP SUBSTITUTION. THE SIGNING OF THE ACCORD EASES A VOLATILE SITUATION IN THE COCA-GROWING CHAPARE REGION, WHERE FARMERS CLASHED RECENTLY WITH ANTINARCOTICS POLICE. [Redacted]

COMMENT: THE AGREEMENT IS A FIRST STEP IN COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND PEASANT UNIONS ON THE DRUG PROBLEM, BUT IT MAY ACTUALLY ADD TO THE DIFFICULTIES THE GOVERNMENT FACES IN PASSING THE US-BACKED LEGISLATION SCHEDULED TO GO BEFORE THE BOLIVIAN CONGRESS IN EARLY AUGUST. MANY PEASANT LEADERS OPPOSE THE DRAFT LAW'S REQUIREMENT FOR FORCED ERADICATION, AND WILL PROBABLY TRY TO USE THE CROP SUBSTITUTION AGREEMENT TO THWART ENACTMENT OF MORE STRINGENT MEASURES. THE GOVERNMENT FACES AN UPHILL BATTLE IN PUSHING THE LEGISLATION THROUGH; [Redacted]

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
DATE: JUN 2003

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TOT: 160450Z JUN 87

DIRECTOR 505798

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